

Message Text

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

USMISSION OECD PARIS

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

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C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 176503

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: EEC, ECIN

SUBJECT: US/EC CONSULTATIONS ON NORTH/SOUTH ISSUES

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REF: STATE 165309; EC BRUSSELS 6301

1. ". UNDER SECRETARY ROGERS, ASSISTANT SECRETARY GREENWALD) RAISED US-EC COORDINATION ON NORTH/SOUTH ISSUES WITH DUTCH (ITALIANER) AND EC COMMISSION (HIJZEN) ON MARGINS OF JULY 8-10 CIEC MEETING. WE ARGUED THAT IMPROVED COORDINATION WAS URGENT. THE OECD COUNTRIES HAVE LITTLE TIME LEFT AND WILL BE UNDER INCREASING PRESSURE AS DECEMBER CIEC MINISTERIAL APPROACHES. THE U.S. AND THE EC ARE THE KEY PLAYERS AND IF WE CAN AGREE OTHERS ARE LIKELY TO FOLLOW. FOR ITS PART U.S. IS PREPARED TO CONSULT FULLY IN ADVANCE. FOR EXAMPLE, WE GAVE U.S. VIEWS ON DEBT AT EARLY STAGE IN PREPARATION FOR TWP DISCUSSION AND THIS SEEMED TO BE HELPFUL. WE POSED TWO QUESTIONS FOR EC: (1) COULD EC MEMBER

STATES BE ALLOWED TO SPEAK IN OECD HLG DISCUSSIONS - THIS WOULD ENHANCE SUBSTANTIVE VALUE OF CONSULTATIONS; (2) WOULD IT HELP IF U.S. PROVIDED ITS VIEWS TO EC PRIOR TO EC DISCUSSION OF GIVEN ISSUE?

2. RESPONSE WAS POSITIVE. DUTCH SUGGESTED JACOBOVITZ IN DUTCH PERM REP MISSION WOULD BE BEST CONTACT FOR USEC SINCE DUTCH PERM REP AND DCM WOULD BE TIED UP WITH RESPONSIBILITIES OF DUTCH EC PRESIDENCY. THEY ALSO SUGGESTED MOURIK OF DUTCH OECD DEL AS USEFUL CONTACT FOR USOECD.

3. DUTCH AGREED THAT EC MEMBER STATES COULD TAKE A MORE ACTIVE ROLE IN OECD HLG DISCUSSIONS AND THIS WOULD ENHANCE SUBSTANTIVE VALUE OF CONSULTATIONS. MORE ACTIVE EC MEMBER STATE PARTICIPATION IN HLG ON COMMODITIES WAS NOTED WITH APPROVAL.

4. WE REITERATED THAT U.S. PREPARED TO CONSULT FULLY IN ADVANCE AND EC SIDE WELCOMED EARLY INPUT FROM U.S. AS USEFUL IN EC DECISION-MAKING. KISSINGER

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